

PATENT
Serial No. 09/876,198
Amendment in Reply to Final Office Action of July 26, 2005

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1-25 as follows:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method of processing a catalog of
2 electronic programming information containing information for at
3 least one program, said information including a start time and an
4 end time of said at least one program, said method comprising:
5 | obtaining from said at least one program a first value
6 | representing characteristics data of said at least one program at
7 | said start time; and
8 | storing said first value in said catalog; and
9 | obtaining from said at least one program a second value
10 | representing characteristics data of said at least one program at
11 | said end time; and
12 | storing said second value program in said catalog;
13 | when a user selects said at least one program for a future use
14 | by a device with a program input, copying said first value and said
15 | second value to said device ;
16 | comparing said first value and said second value to
17 | corresponding values obtained from said program input to determine
18 | a start and stop time for said use.

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1 2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said at
2 least one program is carried by a video signal source.

1 3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said use
2 for said at least one program includes said device displaying said
3 at least one program.

1 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said use
2 for said at least one program includes said device recording said
3 at least one program.

1 5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein at least
2 one of said first value and said second value representing
3 characteristics data gathered from said at least one program is a
4 signature generated by using a combination of features from a frame
5 of said at least one program.

1 6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein at least
2 one of said first value and said second value representing
3 characteristics data gathered from said at least one program is a
4 color histogram generated from a frame of said at least one
5 program.

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1 7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein at least
2 one of said first value and said second value representing
3 characteristics data gathered from said at least one program is
4 generated from closed captioning data gathered from a frame of said
5 at least one program.

1 8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein at least
2 one of said first value and said second value representing
3 characteristics data gathered from said at least one program is
4 generated from thean audio portion from one or more frames of said
5 at least one program.

1 9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein at least
2 one of said first value and said second value representing
3 characteristics data gathered from said at least one program is a
4 signature generated for a block of discrete cosine values for a
5 frame.

1 10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein at
2 least one of said first value and said second value representing

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3 | characteristics data gathered from said at least one program is
4 | obtained from low level features.

1 11. (Currently Amended) A method of processing a catalog of
2 electronic programming information containing information for at
3 least one program, said information including a start time and an
4 end time of said at least one program, said method comprising:
5 | obtaining from said at least one program a first value
6 representing characteristics data of an ending of a program
7 immediately preceding said at least one program; and
8 storing said first value in said catalog; and
9 | obtaining from said at least one program a second value
10 representing characteristics data of said at least one program at
11 said end time; and
12 | storing said second value program in said catalog;
13 | when a user selects said at least one program for a future use
14 by a device with a program input, copying said first value and said
15 second value to said device ;
16 | comparing said first value and said second value to
17 corresponding values obtained from said program input to determine
18 a start and stop time for said use.

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1 12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, where said at
2 least one program is carried by a video signal source.

1 13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein said
2 use for said at least one program includes said device displaying
3 said at least one program.

1 14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein said
2 use for said at least one program includes said device recording
3 said at least one program.

1 15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein at
2 least one of said first value and said second value representing
3 characteristics data gathered from said at least one program is a
4 signature generated by using a combination of features from a frame
5 of said at least one program.

1 16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein at
2 least one of said first value and said second value representing
3 characteristics data gathered from said at least one program is a

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4 | color histogram generated from a frame of said at least one
5 | program.

1 | 17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein at
2 | least one of said first value and said second value representing
3 | characteristics data gathered from said at least one program is
4 | generated from closed captioning data gathered from a frame of said
5 | at least one program.

1 | 18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein at
2 | least one of said first value and said second value representing
3 | characteristics data gathered from said at least one program is
4 | generated from the audio portion from one or more frames of said at
5 | least one program.

1 | 19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein at
2 | least one of said first value and said second value representing
3 | characteristics of said DCT blocks is a signature generated for a
4 | block of DCT values for a frame.

1 | 20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein at
2 | least one of said first value and said second value representing

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3 characteristics data gathered from said at least one program is
4 obtained from low level features.

1 21. (Currently Amended) A method of processing a catalog of
2 electronic programming information containing information for at
3 least one a second program and a first program which immediately
4 temporarily precedes said second program, said information
5 including a start time and an end time of said at least one second
6 program and the an ending time for an immediately temporarily
7 preceding said first program, said method comprising:

8 obtaining from said first program a first value representing
9 first characteristics data of an ending of a said first program at
10 said ending time immediately preceding said at least one program;
11 and

12 storing said first value in said catalog; and

13 obtaining from said second program a second value representing
14 second characteristics data of said at least one second program at
15 said start time; and

16 storing said second value program in said catalog;

17 when a user selects said at least one second program for a
18 future use by a device with a program input, copying said first
19 value and said second value to said device;

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20 comparing said first value to a corresponding value obtained
21 from said program input to determine a said ending time when of
22 said immediately temporarily preceding first program ends;
23 next comparing said second value to corresponding value
24 obtained from said program input to determine time for said use to
25 begin.

1 22. (Currently Amended) A system for processing a catalog of
2 electronic programming information, in which said catalog contains
3 information for a program, wherein a start time and end time of
4 said program is stored, in which said program is represented by
5 characteristics characteristic data gathered from said program,
6 said system comprising:

7 a video signal source of said program; and
8 a processor operatively coupled to said video signal source,
9 said processor coupled to an electronic programming guide, and
10 coupled to a user selection device, and logic output means; said
11 processor configured to:
12 obtain a user programming selection from said user
13 selection device; and

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14 obtain said characteristic data, program channel
15 | selection, and program said start time and said end time from said
16 | electronic programming guide containing said catalog; and
17 monitor said video signal source at time proximal to said
18 | program start time, comparing said characteristic data with
19 | complimentary characteristic data generated from said video signal
20 | source; and
21 | (a) when said characteristic data obtained from said
22 | catalog is equivalent to said complimentary characteristic data
23 | generated from said video signal source, set said logic output
24 | means to TRUE, and stop performing said comparison; or
25 | (b) otherwise set said logic output means to FALSE and
26 | continue performing said comparison on said video signal source.

1 | 23. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22, further
2 | comprising wherein said processor is further configured to:
3 monitor said video signal source at time proximal to said
4 | program end time, comparing said characteristic data obtained from
5 | said catalog with said complimentary characteristic data generated
6 | from video signal source; and
7 | (a) when said characteristic data obtained from said
8 | catalog is equivalent to said complimentary characteristic data

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9 generated from said video signal source, set said logic output
10 means to FALSE, and stop performing said comparison; or
11 (b) otherwise set said logic output means to TRUE and
12 continue performing said comparison on said video signal source.

1 24. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22, wherein said
2 processor is further operatively connected to a device for further
3 processing said program, wherein a TRUE value for said logic output
4 means causes said processor to turn on said device to the a channel
5 of said program.

1 25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 24, further
2 | comprising that a FALSE value of said logic output means causes
3 | said processor to turn off said device for further processing.

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